



FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

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To: Chairman Schnur and Commissioners Garrett, Hodson, Montgomery, and Rotunda

From: Tara Stock, Legislative Coordinator

Subject: Legislative Report

Date: January 28, 2011

Current Legislation

Since the January Commission hearing, an additional bill that affects the Political Reform Act, AB 182 (Davis), was introduced in the Assembly. Summaries of all proposals and positions as recommended by staff are below.

SB 50 (Correa)

Conflicts of Interest Disqualification – High Speed Rail Authority Members

This bill would add members of the High Speed Rail Authority to the list of specified offices in Government Code Section 87200 who must publicly identify a financial interest giving rise to a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest, and recuse themselves accordingly.

Status: Senate Elections, Reapportionment & Constitutional Amendments.

Staff Recommended Position: Support

SB 19 (Blakeslee)

Campaign Telephone Calls

This bill in its current form states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation regulating automated and prerecorded telephone calls regarding candidates and measures. There is no substantive language yet.

Status: Senate Rules.

Staff Recommended Position: Support

SB 18 (Blakeslee)

Gifts from Lobbyist Employers

This bill in its current form states that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would further limit the ability of special interest groups (including lobbyist employers) to give gifts to Legislators. There is no substantive language yet.

Status: Senate Rules.

Staff Recommended Position: Support

AB 41 (Hill)**Conflicts of Interest Disqualification – High Speed Rail Authority Members**

In its current form, this bill language is identical to SB 50 (Correa), above. It would add members of the High Speed Rail Authority to the list of specified offices in Government Code Section 87200 who must publicly identify a financial interest giving rise to a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest, and recuse themselves accordingly.

Status: Assembly Elections and Redistricting.

Staff Recommended Position: Support

AB 182 (Davis)**Statements of Economic Interests – Electronic Filing**

Existing law provides that the ongoing pilot project for electronic filing of Statements of Economic Interests by specified local agencies shall be completed by January 1, 2012. This bill extends the project to continue until December 31, 2012. Assuming the pilot project is successful, the bill also permits all filing officers, as of January 1, 2013, to accept the electronic filing of Statements of Economic Interests.

Status: Introduced in Assembly.

Staff Recommended Position: Support

“Watch” Bills

Staff does not feel that it is necessary for the Commission to adopt positions on the following bills, but staff will continue to track the bills through the legislative process.

SB 46 (Correa)**Disclosure of Local Government Compensation**

This bill, in its current form, does not affect the Political Reform Act. It would require local officials who are required to file a Statement of Economic Interests to annually file a government compensation disclosure form, which shall be developed by the Secretary of State's office. The filing deadline shall be the same as the deadline established for the annual Statements of Economic Interests.

Status: Senate Governance and Finance.

AB 71 (Huber)**Lobbying Interests**

This bill amends the Political Reform Act to require the Secretary of State, within 90 days following the end of each calendar quarter, to post on its web site a list of all reported lobbying interests and a list of all lobbyist employers who reported each of those interests.

Status: Assembly Elections and Redistricting.

AB 65 (Gatto)**Ballot Pamphlet**

This bill amends the Political Reform Act to require that, if the Legislative Analyst determines that an initiative measure on the ballot would have a fiscal impact on the State General Fund for which additional revenues in an amount that meets or exceeds the net increase in costs are not provided, a statement be included in the ballot pamphlet that the initiative will have an impact on the General Fund, which will affect the ability of the Legislature to provide funding for enumerated General Fund purposes.

Status: Assembly Elections and Redistricting.